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Subject: M6H1 HARVEY RESPONSE 09-20-2017 0700 FINAL
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 7:22:26 AM
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Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/20/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- FEMA has informed EPA that the state cost-share increase to 10% is effective at midnight on Thursday, not Friday. EPA is adjusting demobilization schedules.
- EPA respond to a large tank fire at the Valero Port Arthur Refinery in Pt. Arthur, Texas. The fire occurred at 12:10 local time and was extinguished in about one hour. EPA is conducting air monitoring with TCEQ. A shelter-in-place was called for the West Side of Port Arthur and has been lifted. <http://www.chron.com/business/energy/article/Fire-breaks-out-at-Valero-s-Port-Arthur-refinery-12209536.php>
- Dana Tulis, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Director of Incident Management and Preparedness Policy visited Houston and Corpus Christi Branches yesterday. U.S. House of Representatives Speaker, Paul Ryan, is expected to visit the Houston Branch either September 20 or 21, 2017.
- Corpus Christi and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branches have transitioned all future assessment and recovery operations to the TCEQ Regional Offices and are sampling and dismantling the staging pads. EPA and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are preparing transition memos for each Branch.
- The Houston Branch of Unified Command continues to recover, stage, characterize, and consolidate orphan containers for proper disposal. The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch is transferring recovered containers and waste from the staging pad for disposal this week, and is projected to complete all activities by the end of the week. The Houston Branch is projected to complete all activities within 25 days.
- Two TAGA air monitoring teams monitored neighborhoods and areas near 13 facilities in Corpus Christi and Beaumont yesterday. No readings above the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels were detected. The two TAGA buses are scheduled to finish monitoring September 20, 2017 and demobilize by September 22, 2017.
- EPA completed sampling of all 34 Texas Superfund sites potentially impacted by the storm, September 15, 2017. EPA has released 27 post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey website.

- Community Liaison teams continue to provide information regarding returning to flooded areas and handling of house-hold waste in the counties of Orange, Jefferson, Matagorda, Baytown, Harris, Fort Bend, Colorado, Liberty, Brazoria, Galveston, Jasper, Newton and Refugio. The plan is for these teams to continue activities until October 23, 2017. The teams are listening to concerns from the community, associated with the recovery effort, and transferring this information back to County officials and the JFO, to the appropriate ESF contacts, where appropriate.
- EPA anticipates a request for a No Action Assurance Letter from the state of Texas regarding the disposition of tires collected as part of the response effort.
- On September 19, 2017, FEMA issued an increase in EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment to \$2.1 million. The TCEQ has requested the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment by \$8.3 million in stages. Once fully approved, this will bring the total funding for assessment and response to \$18.3 million.

DEBRIS RECOVERY

Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. EPA observers visited 38 sites, with TCEQ, on September 19, 2017. The plan is for debris observation teams to continue for another 30 days. FEMA reported that 150 debris sites have been approved. Currently, FEMA estimates debris to total 17 million cubic yards. A federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Austin and EPA is a member of the Taskforce. All observers noted that TCEQ is following their debris/landfill observation process, and TCEQ is having the sites address any issues to their satisfaction.

AIR MONITORING

On September 19, 2017, TAGA Team 1 conducted monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around the Flint Hills Resources East and West Refineries, Valero East and West Refineries, Citgo East and West Refineries, Equistar Refinery, and the Equistar Chemical Dock facility; all in Corpus Christi Branch. No monitored readings exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

On September 19, 2017, TAGA Team 2 conducted air monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery, ExxonMobil Beaumont Polyethylene facility, ExxonMobil Beaumont Chemical Plant, Neches Terminal, and Neches West facilities. No monitored readings at any facilities exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

| Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | CONTAINERS | | | Cylinders | TOTAL |
| | Drums [55 gals] | Small Containers [<55 gals] | Large Containers [>55 gals] | | |
| 9/19/2017 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 24 |
| TOTAL TO DATE | 423 | 397 | 37 | 120 | 977 |

| Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery | | | | |
|---|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Status | Opened | | Closed | |
| | 9/19/2017 | Number of Targets Remaining Open | 9/19/2017 | Cumulative |
| Corpus Christi Branch | 0 | 5 | 0 | 101 |
| Houston Branch | 0 | 3 | 19 | 399 |
| Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch | 0 | 0 | 7 | 135 |
| NRC Reports | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| TOTALS | 0 | 8 | 26 | 640 |
| Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item. | | | | |

| Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (NON-VESSELS) | | | | |
|--|----------|--|----------|------------|
| Status | Opened | | Closed | |
| | 9/19/17 | Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open | 9/19/17 | Cumulative |
| Corpus Christi Branch | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 |
| Houston Branch | 0 | 0 | 0 | 77 |
| Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch | 0 | 3 | 1 | 23 |
| NRC Reports | 0 | 8 | 3 | 118 |
| TOTALS | 0 | 11 | 4 | 251 |
| Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location. | | | | |

| Field Teams on 9/19/2017 | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Teams | Alpha | Bravo | Charlie | Total |
| Hazard Evaluation | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Hazard Evaluation Debris | 2 | 8 | 0 | 10 |
| Oil Discharge Assessment | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| ER/Orphan Container Recovery | 0 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Staging Areas | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Air Operations | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Air Monitoring | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 9 | 19 | 4 | 33 |

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

The Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery placed placards on five vessels in Cove Harbor and one vessel was relinquished by the owner to Texas General Land Office (TGLO).

HOUSTON BRANCH:

The ER/Orphan Container Recovery Team recovered a 2,500-gallon tote of unknown liquid. Oil Discharge Assessment Teams sampled four totes, recovered two drums, and a polypropylene container. Hazard Evaluation Teams assessed a debris line target and identified approximately 14 containers requiring recovery.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

ER/Orphan Container Recovery Teams safely recovered and retrieved a chemical tote from the Beaumont Yacht Club.

Hazard Evaluation (HE) teams investigated two targets in south Port Arthur. Both targets were cleared. Hazard Evaluation Teams also verified that all targets near Benchmark Oil & Gas Co. in Orange were being addressed by the responsible party.

EPA RESOURCES

| Personnel | EPA Dallas, TX | FEMA Denton, TX | Texas JFO Austin, TX | Texas SOC Austin, TX | TCEQ Austin, TX | Houston, TX | Corpus Christi, TX | Beaumont, TX | HQ EOC, Wash, DC | TOTAL |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|
| EPA | 55 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 51 | 22 | 14 | 17 | 163 |
| START | 5 | | | 1 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 9 | | 25 |
| ERRS | | | | | | 21 | 2 | 15 | | 38 |
| Other Contractors | | | | | | | | | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL | 60 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 76 | 30 | 38 | 23 | 232 |



- EPA received preliminary data for 40 sites, and has publicly reported on 27. Results for the remaining 3 sites, located in Louisiana, are expected today.
- Review of preliminary data packages continues and will be reported as they are completed. Final data packages are expected within two weeks.
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the hurricane affected area have been assessed. Of these, 42 sites have been cleared. The San Jacinto Waste Pits requires additional follow up.
- San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: The Responsible Party submitted, and EPA approved the cap repair work plan on September 15, 2017. The RP began maintenance work on September 16, 2017. Work resumed yesterday, after a day off for required contractor training on September 18, 2017.

Photo Log



Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch Orphan Container Recovery